

Cal/Ecotox
Exposure Factors for Gopher Snake (Pituophis melanoleucus)*

Page 1

| Endpoint Type | Endpoint Value | Error | Range | Units | Sex | Life Stage | Location | Note | Reference |
|------------------------|--|----------|-----------|-------------|-----|------------|----------|------|-----------|
| Age at Sexual Maturity | 3 | | | yr | M | Adult | ID | a | 1 |
| Body Weight - Mean | 267.9 | 123.0 SD | | g | F | Adult | ID | b | 1 |
| Body Weight - Mean | 238.4 | 101.5 SD | | g | M | Adult | ID | c | 1 |
| Body Weight - Mean | 655 | | 513 - 950 | g | NR | Adult | Lab | d | 2 |
| Body Weight - Mean | 548 | | 396 - 961 | g | NR | Adult | Lab | e | 3 |
| Body Weight - Mean | 33.5 | 6 SE | | g | B | Juvenile | Lab | f | 4 |
| Body Weight - Mean | 59.8 | 43.0 SD | | g | F | Juvenile | ID | g | 1 |
| Body Weight - Mean | 45.0 | 38.9 SD | | g | M | Juvenile | ID | h | 1 |
| Body Weight - Mean | 11.5 | 0.3 SD | | g | B | Neonate | ID | i | 1 |
| Clutch or Litter Size | 8.5 | | 3 - 19 | eggs/clutch | F | Adult | CA | j | 5 |
| Clutch or Litter Size | 8.8 | | | eggs/clutch | F | Adult | Lab | k | 4 |
| Clutch or Litter Size | 6.9 | 2.10 SD | 3 - 11 | eggs/clutch | F | Adult | ID | l | 1 |
| Dietary Composition | Cottontail (37.1%); Ground squirrel (27.9%); Woodrat (18.6%); Bird egg (5.3%); Gopher (4.0%); Other (7.1%) | | | % | NR | NR | CA | m | 6 |
| Dietary Composition | Townsend ground squirrel (8.7%); Mountain conttontail (7.8%); Deer mouse (47.5%); Ord kangaroo rat (4.9%); Great Basin pocket mouse (5.8%); Montane vole (9.7%); House mouse (7.8%); Other species (7.8%) | | | % | NR | NR | ID | n | 7 |
| Dietary Composition | Townsend ground squirrel (27.7%); Mountain conttontail (31.6%); Deer mouse (19.0%); Ord kangaroo rat (5.4%); Great Basin pocket mouse (1.8%); Montane vole (6.1%); House mouse (2.8%); Other species (5.5%) | | | % | NR | NR | ID | o | 7 |
| Dietary Composition | Ground squirrel (44.3%); Woodrat (29.5%); Cottontail (19.7%); Quail egg (8.4%); Pocket gopher (6.4%); Mouse (4.4%); Meadow mouse (3.4%); Fence lizard (1.5%); Kangaroo rat (1.3%); Pocket mouse (0.6%); Broad-shouldered lizard (0.4%) | | | % | NR | NR | CA | p | 8 |
| Dietary Composition | Townsend ground squirrel (30.3%); Mountain conttontail (34.4%); Deer mouse (15.8%); Ord kangaroo rat (5.9%); Great Basin pocket mouse (1.7%); Montane vole (5.6%); House mouse (2.2%); Other species (4.1%) | | | % | NR | NR | ID | q | 1 |
| Dietary Composition | Townsend ground squirrel (10.6%); Mountain conttontail (11.6%); Deer mouse (43.3%); Ord kangaroo rat (5.8%); Great Basin pocket mouse (5.8%); Montane vole (9.6%); House mouse (6.7%); Other species (6.7%) | | | % | NR | NR | ID | r | 1 |

Exposure Factors for Gopher Snake (Pituophis melanoleucus)

Page 2

| Endpoint Type | Endpoint Value | Error | Range | Units | Sex | Life Stage | Location | Note | Reference |
|-------------------------------------|--|---------|-----------|-------------|-----|------------|--------------------------|------|-----------|
| Dietary Composition | review | | | | NR | NR | | s | 9 |
| Duration of Incubation or Gestation | 125 | | | d | F | Adult | ID | t | 1 |
| Food Ingestion Rate | 2 | | | g/d | NR | NR | CA | u | 6 |
| Food Ingestion Rate | 1.6 | 0.82 SD | | % | NR | NR | Lab | v | 7 |
| Home Range | 460 | | 0 - 1000 | ft | B | Adult | CA | w | 8 |
| Inhalation Rate | 363 (15C); 508 (20C); 709 (25C); 999 (30C) | | | ml/kg/hr | NR | Adult | Lab | x | 2 |
| Metabolic Rate | 5.6 (15C); 9.8 (20C); 17.3 (25C); 30.4 (30C) | | | ml O2/kg/hr | NR | Adult | Lab | y | 2 |
| Metabolic Rate | log VO2 = 0.013 + 0.049T | | | ul O2/g/hr | NR | Adult | Lab | z | 2 |
| Metabolic Rate | OC = 0.0101T + 0.162 | | | ml O2/g/hr | NR | Adult | Lab | aa | 3 |
| Metabolic Rate | OC = 0.324/(37.4 - T) | | | ml O2/g/hr | NR | Adult | Lab | ab | 3 |
| Metabolic Rate | OC = 0.198T - 0.126 | | | ml O2/g/hr | NR | Adult | Lab | ac | 3 |
| Population Density | 1.2 | 0.6 SD | 0.1 - 1.9 | #/ha | B | NR | ID | ad | 7 |
| Population Density | 0.6 | | | #/acre | NR | NR | CA | ae | 6 |
| Population Density | | | 3 - 11.6 | #/km | NR | NR | Alameda; San Joaquin; CA | af | 10 |
| Time of Hatching or Parturition | Oct. | | | | NR | Hatchling | ID | ag | 1 |
| Time of Mating/ Laying | June - July | | | | F | Adult | ID | ah | 1 |
| Time of Torpor or Hibernation | Oct. - Apr. | | | | NR | NR | ID | ai | 1 |

Notes

- a N=NR; Snake River Birds of Prey Area, southwestern ID
- b N=90; Snake River Birds of Prey Area, southwestern ID; average snout-vent length = 96.7 cm
- c N=231; Snake River Birds of Prey Area, southwestern ID; average snout-vent length = 96.0 cm
- d N=11; captured at Riverside, CA
- e N=14
- f N=68; Age=15 d; see citation for effects of incubation temperature on hatching success and frequency of abnormalities
- g N=59; Snake River Birds of Prey Area, southwestern ID; average snout-vent length = 58.5 cm
- h N=44; Snake River Birds of Prey Area, southwestern ID; average snout-vent length = 51.1 cm
- i N=9; Snake River Birds of Prey Area, southwestern ID; average snout-vent length = 29.5 cm
- j N=33; "west coast"
- k N=38
- l N=20; Snake River Birds of Prey Area, southwestern ID
- m percentage of total prey weight palped from stomachs; N=70 prey items; San Joaquin Experimental Range
- n % frequency of prey ingested based on stomach content and scat analysis; N=103 items/405 captures; Snake River Birds of Prey Area, southwestern ID
- o % biomass of prey ingested based on stomach content and scat analysis; N=103 items/405 captures; Snake River Birds of Prey Area, southwestern ID
- p % of total food items recovered from stomach contents; N=72 food items; Mar. - Oct.; San Joaquin Experimental Range
- q % biomass of prey based on stomach contents and scat analysis; N=104 prey items/455 snakes; Snake River Birds of Prey Area, southwestern ID
- r % frequency of prey based on stomach contents and scats; N=104 prey items/455 snakes; Snake River Birds of Prey Area, southwestern ID
- s N=NR
- t N=NR; Snake River Birds of Prey Area, southwestern ID
- u N=NR; San Joaquin Experimental Range
- v % body weight consumed per day; N=43; Age=Age class 1 and older; captive in outdoor enclosures at Snake River Birds of Prey Area; see citation for estimates of annual prey ingestion rate at mean density
- w median distance traveled between recaptures; N=25; San Joaquin Experimental Range
- x ventilation volume [ml (BTPS)/kg/hr) measured at 15-30 C; N=7; Condition=resting; captured at Riverside, CA; tidal volume (ml/kg) ranged from 28.1 to 35.9 and breathing frequency (breaths/hr) ranged from 11-40.
- y oxygen consumption rates measured at body temperatures of 15-30C; N=4/temp; Condition=resting; captured at Riverside, CA

| | |
|----|---|
| z | equation for oxygen consumption (logarithm of VO2; ul O2/g-h) as a function of body temperature (15-30C); N=11; Condition=resting; captured at Riverside, CA; see citation for figure |
| aa | active oxygen consumption (OC) as a function of body temperature (T; 29-35C); N=14; average body weight = 548 g |
| ab | resting oxygen consumption (OC) as a function of body temperature (T; 10-35C); N=14; average body weight = 548 g |
| ac | active oxygen consumption (OC) as a function of body temperature (T; 10-29C); N=14; average body weight = 548 g |
| ad | mean density in 9 habitat types; N=NR; May - July; Snake Rive Birds of Prey Area, southwestern ID; see citation for biomass (g/ha) estimates |
| ae | N=NR; San Joaquin Experimental Range |
| af | range of abundance along a transect crossing 3 habitat types; N=NR; Apr. - June; Corral Hollow Road (elev. 91 - 488 m) |
| ag | N=NR; Snake River Birds of Prey Area, southwestern ID |
| ah | time of laying; N=NR; Snake River Birds of Prey Area, southwestern ID |
| ai | N=455; Snake River Birds of Prey Area, southwestern ID |

References

1 Diller, Lowell V. and Richard L. Wallace. 1996. Comparative ecology of two snake species (Crotalus viridis and Pituophis melanoleucus) in southwestern Idaho. Herpetologica. 52:343-360.

2 Stinner, Jerry N. 1982. Ventilation, gas exchange and blood gases in the snake, Pituophis melanoleucus. Respir. Physiol. 47:279-298.

3 Greenwald, O.E. 1971. The effect of body temperature on oxygen consumption and heart rate in the Sonora gopher snake, Pituophis catenfer affinis Hallowell. Copeia. 1971:98-106.

4 Burger, Joanna, Robert T. Zappalorti and Michael Gochfeld. 1987. Developmental effects of incubation temperature on hatchling pine snakes Pituophis melanoleucus. Comp. Biochem. Physiol., A , Comp. Physiol. 87:727-732.

5 Fitch, Henry S. 1985. Variation in clutch and litter size in New World reptiles. Univ. Kansas Pub. Mus. Nat. Hist. 76:28.

6 Fitch, Henry S. 1947. Ecology of a cottontail rabbit (Sylvilagus auduboni) population in central California. Calif. Fish Game. 33:159 - 184.

7 Diller, Lowell V. and Donald R. Johnson. 1988. Food habits, consumption rates, and predation rates of western rattlesnakes and gopher snakes in southwestern Utah. Herpetologica. 44:228-233.

8 Fitch, H.S. 1949. A study of snake populations in central California. Am. Midl. Nat. 41:552-559.

9 Sweet, Samuel S. and William S. Parker. 1990. Pituophis melanoleucus (Daudin), Pine, Bull and Gopher Snakes. Cat. Am. Amphib. Reptil. 474:1-8.

10 Sullivan, Brian K. 1981. Distribution and relative abundance of snakes along a transect in California. J. Herpetol. 15:247-248.

*Cal/EPA, OEHHA and the University of California Regents are not responsible for damages of any kind resulting from the use of or reliance on information in this report. Users are encouraged to consult the original data. Updated: February 1999.